17303-62825:JVD:1284637

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 10 and continuing

thru line 31 with the following:

In one embodiment of the present invention, the length of a specific zone or

section 1080,1110, or 1140 is established by the orientation of the drive sprocket for the

corresponding roller shaft. In a preferred embodiment, a roller shaft 1164 populated with

a plurality of slippable rollers 1162 and having a single drive sprocket 1166 on one end is

mounted in side rail 1066 such that sprocket 1166 engages chain 1088. In that preferred

embodiment, a roller shaft 1144 having a plurality of non-slippable, fixed rollers 1142 is

mounted to the conveyor side walls such that sprocket 1146 drivingly engages chain

[4064-] 1118. A plurality of roller shafts 1144 are also mounted to the side rails 1064 and

1066 such that the corresponding sprockets 1146 are drivingly engaged with chain 1149.

With this arrangement, the length of conveying section 1140 is established by the number

of adjacent roller shafts having sprockets engaging chain 1149. The length of zone 1110

is established by the plurality of adjacent roller shafts 1144 whose sprockets engage

chain 1118 upstream of zone 1140. The length of zone 1080 is established by the

adjacent roller shafts 1164 whose sprockets engage chain 1088 immediately upstream of

zone 1110. The length of any of these zones can be easily altered by simply removing a

roller shaft at the zone-to-zone interface, and turning it over, end for end, so that the

sprocket is placed on the opposite side of the conveyor, and engages the chain on the

opposite side of the conveyor. Although the use of fixed rollers in zones 1140 and 1110

have been shown and described, the present invention contemplates the use of any type

of roller in any of the zones 1080, 1110, and 1140, including a single roller on the shaft.

RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION Serial No. 10/549,439 17303-62825:JVD:1284637

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 21 and continuing

thru page 21, line 3 with the following:

Products 52 being conveyed along spacing section 1110 are provided to a spacing

section [-140-] 1140 which spaces apart the products with a spacing appropriate for the

spacing requirements of the downstream in feed conveyor 1056. Correction section 1140

preferably includes a plurality of roller shafts 1144, each of which supports a plurality of

non-slippable rollers 1142. Each roller shaft 1144 includes a driving sprocket 1146 which

is adapted and configured for meshing engagement with a chain drive. Each roller shaft

1144 preferably includes a sleeve bearing 1152 which is captured within a static sleeve

support 1154 attached to one of siderails 1064 or 1066. In a preferred embodiment,

sleeve support 1154 is fabricated from a resilient material. Support 1154 includes a

plurality of semi- cylindrical notches which are adapted and configured to retain the outer

diameter of the sleeve bearings 1152. Preferably, the cylindrical indentation is slightly

more than one-half of the cylinder, such that the supported sleeve bearing 1152 can be

snapped in and out of place.

RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION Serial No. 10/549,439 Attorney Docket: 17303-62825